North American Arms, Inc.
Owner & Instruction Manual

Cap & Ball "Companion"

CONGRATULATIONS! You have purchased a firearm that will give you a lifetime of shooting pleasure and dependability. Please completely familiarize yourself with your revolver and its operation before actual firing.

WARNING
Improper use of this product may cause injury or death. Follow all safety rules that apply to firearms.

SAFETY

Retract the hammer approximately 1/4 of the way and you will feel it lock into the safety and loading notch. CAUTION - This gun must not be dry fired as this will damage the firing pin!. With the hammer in this position your revolver is safe for handling and loading.

WARNING
Point only in a safe direction. Treat at all times as if it is loaded! Never pull trigger unless pointed in a safe direction.

Become proficient in this operation before actually loading or firing the revolver. As a precaution, the owner of this revolver, as with any revolver, should be aware that a round may be discharged with the cylinder misaligned with the barrel throat. Extra caution should be used when handling this gun due to its diminutive size. Do not remove cylinder over concrete or any other hard surface. Dropping the cylinder on a hard surface could cause a loaded chamber to be discharged. Safety glasses must be used when loading and firing the percussion firearm; small pieces of the percussion cap are frequently blown away when a percussion arm fires.

The two major expendable ingredients used in firing a cap & ball firearm are *black powder* and *percussion caps*.

Black powder is an *extremely* sensitive propellant and is readily ignited by heat, sparks, static electricity, friction, pressure, impact, etc. Unlike smokeless powder, black powder will ignite with great violence and rapidity, even when unconfined. Black powder should be handled only in very small quantities. If you are not familiar with safe handling procedures for black powder and percussion firearms in general, you should obtain one of the authoritative percussion loaders manuals and study it carefully before beginning to shoot.

A percussion cap is a small metal cup, the interior top of which is covered with a priming mixture. This priming mixture is usually covered with a foil or paper liner. The cap is placed on a nipple and, when struck by the hammer, the primer compound explodes, igniting the powder charge. The cap should fit the nipple only tight enough so that it does not fall off when the cylinder is elevated. Do not attempt to use the caps which are too tight, as a premature discharge could result.

LOADING

In the interest of both performance and safety, it is important that the steps which follow be performed in sequence and with attention to detail.

CAUTION: Please read carefully the paragraph entitled "SAFETY" if you are not thoroughly familiar with the safe handling procedures.

WARNING
Always treat as if loaded. Point only in a safe direction.

To load your revolver, the cylinder must first be removed. To accomplish this, first place the hammer in its safety notch 1/4 of the way back, then remove the cylinder lock pin by grasping the knurled knob at the end of the pin and, pushing the end of the pin in very slightly, pull the assembly out. When the pin is free, remove the cylinder by pushing it out of the right side of the revolver. Before loading, check that all caps are removed from nipples, all chambers are empty, and nipples, bores, and chambers are free of dirt, grease, or other debris.

A percussion cap should be fired in each chamber before loading with powder and bullet. The following explains how to do this:

1. Place a percussion cap on each nipple without loading the chambers.

2. Replace the cylinder in the frame by rotating cylinder into place from the right side of the revolver so as to engage cylinder lock into cylinder notch (the hammer should be in a safety notch position).

3. Replace cylinder pin by inserting with flat portion of the pin locking collar turned toward the gun barrel. Push pin firmly into hole (you will feel the pin click into place).

You are now ready to cock and fire your revolver. Point the gun in a safe direction and fire all five caps. This is done to ensure that the nipples passage is clear and dry. Remove the cylinder and spent percussion caps.

Cap and ball revolvers are loaded first with powder and bullet. Percussion caps are loaded last. **CAUTION:** Do not install caps before powder and bullets are in place, as caps could be discharged in the bullet seating operation!

Using the furnished powder measure (which holds 2.5 grains black powder FFFFH or Pyrodex, for the NAA Companion LR, and 4 grains for the NAA Companion Magnum), pour into each chamber 1 (one) level measure full. CAUTION - do not overload or use other than the recommended powder. Place a 30 grain .22 caliber bullet, with flat end down, into each chamber. Using the bullet seating tool (also furnished), press each bullet into place until shoulder on setting tool contacts top of a cylinder. Using one of the commercially available bullet greases, or other stiff grease, apply a generous coating to each chamber mouth (cover bullets so as to seal chambers). This will serve to lubricate the bullet and reduce the possibility of multi-chamber discharge. Place a #11 pistol cap on each cylinder nipple (the cap should seat completely on nipple with very little finger pressure). If proper caps are used, they should not fall off when the cylinder is tipped over. When properly installed the cap will be even with, or slightly below, the rear face of the cylinder.

Reinstall cylinder into revolver frame and reinsert cylinder pin, keeping revolver pointed in a safe direction. CAUTION: Revolver is now loaded and ready to fire.

FIRING

To fire the revolver, draw the hammer all the way to the rear until it locks in the "full cock" or firing position (be certain that the hammer is locked before releasing it from your finger). Actual firing of the revolver is accomplished by depressing the trigger when the hammer is in full cock position. Do not dry fire.

CARE AND CLEANING

The stainless steels used in North American Arms revolvers have been selected for their great strength and resistance to the corrosive effects of black powder residue. It is recommended, however, that this revolver be cleaned within a short period after each use. Timely attention to the following simple procedures will ensure that your revolver remains in top condition for many years of use:

1. Make sure revolver is unloaded.

2. Remove cylinder from revolver following instructions above.

3. With muzzle pointed down so that water cannot enter the action, flush the barrel from the inside of cylinder frame with warm water, until water runs clean from the muzzle.

4. Using a bristle or brass brush wetted with a soap and water solution, thoroughly scrub the bore to remove all traces of residue. The flush bore again with very hot water. Dry bore and barrel/frame assembly thoroughly with clean cloth.

5. Thoroughly scrub cylinder and other parts and flush with very hot water, then wipe dry.

6. Be sure that all gun parts are clean and dry.

7. Oil the bore and all parts thoroughly with a good quality gun oil (clean excess oil from bore with a patch), then reassemble.

8. Special attention should be given to the floating firing pin and cylinder pin. After approximately every 15 rounds fired, place a drop or two of light oil around the firing pin and in the cylinder pin hole in the cylinder. This will keep residue from building up and fouling the operation of the firing pin and cylinder. This is especially important when using black powder, due to its corrosive effect on metal. Action should be frequently flushed out with a light penetrating type oil.

9. Side plate screw should be checked frequently for tightness as the jar of firing will tend to loosen the screw, as in any other firearm.

Because of the superior materials and workmanship used in the manufacture of this firearm, we are able to offer a **lifetime warranty** for both parts and labor.

WARNING STATEMENT
Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to the State of California to cause birth defects, reproductive harm, and other serious physical injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.

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